(c) Vayudoot proposes to pay up the outstanding amount in instalments.

Setting up of Duty Free Shops at Ports in Kanyakumari

1614. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up Duty-free shops at Chinna Muttam Port or Colachal Port in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu to boost tourism; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and by when this will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Companies to run Duty Free Shops

1615. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Airports Authority of India has floated in International Tender to offer Duty Free Shops to Foreign Companies;

(b) if so, whether a proposal has been received from ITC-Scotts/Weihner to run Duty Free Shops;

(c) whether Government has looked into the financial status of these companies to determine their viability; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are aware that both these companies are defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Eligible Indian and foreign companies were free to participate in this Global Tender.

(b) M/s. Scotts Holdings Pvt. Limited in collaboration with M/s. ITC and M/s. State Trading Corporation of India alongwith M/s. Weitnaur were among the tendering firms.

(c) International Airports Authority of India who had floated the tenders had considered the eligibility of these companies. This being a commercial issue, the Ministry is not involved in processing the tenders.

(d) No, Sir.

Introduction of Mahalucky Rajah Scheme

1616. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has introduced Mahalucky Rajah Scheme for the Air India passengers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) how far the scheme has succeeded?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Passengers travelling on Air India and on tickets purchased in India during the period from 20th of September to 30th of November, 1991 were covered under the scheme. Winners were entitled to free tickets to certain destinations on the Air India network.

(c) The scheme was launched during Air India's lean period with an objective to enhance the visibility of Air India amongst the passengers. This objective was achieved.